



Department of Justice

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EIGHT SENTENCED FOR ROLES IN VIOLENT HEROIN DISTRIBUTION NETWORK

Sentences range from 70 months to 30 years

CINCINNATI— Eight Cincinnati residents who were part of a violent drug trafficking organization operating here have been sentenced in United States District Court to sentences ranging from 70 months to 30 years imprisonment.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, Christopher P. Sadowski, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and Cincinnati Police Chief Thomas H. Streicher, Jr. announced the sentences handed down April 29 and 30 by United States District Judge Michael R. Barrett.

Beginning around January 2001 and continuing to July 2006 the “Grimmie Network”, also known as the “A-1 Darkside” operated by Gary Myles and Gino Freeman was a multi-kilogram heroin distribution enterprise. As part of their organization, the members engaged in acts of violence and intimidation including the murder of a suspected rival drug dealer to further their control over the trafficking of heroin and other drugs.

Those sentenced are:

Gary “G-Nut” Myles, age 34, pleaded guilty in August, 2007 to Conspiracy to Distribute in excess of 1 kilogram of heroin. Sentenced to 360 months imprisonment.

Gino “G” Freeman, age 28, pleaded guilty to Conspiracy to Distribute in excess of 1 kilogram of heroin. Sentenced to 329 months imprisonment.

Jeffrey “Nice” or “Nite-Nite” Pitts, age 26, pleaded guilty to one count of Violent Crimes In Aid of Racketeering. Sentenced to 300 months imprisonment.

Kofi Cooper, age 30, pleaded guilty to one count of Violent Crimes In Aid of Racketeering and was sentenced to 152 months imprisonment.

Randy Martin, age 26, pleaded guilty to conspiracy. Sentenced to 188 months imprisonment.

Bethany Notestine, age 24, pleaded guilty to conspiracy. Sentenced to 120 months imprisonment.

Derrick Knox, age 26, pleaded guilty to conspiracy. Sentenced to 70 months imprisonment.

Reno Lattimore, age 29, pleaded guilty to conspiracy. Sentenced to 70 months imprisonment.

“Criminal enterprises combine evil elements of society – illegal guns, drug trafficking, threats and violence – to promote their organization,” Lockhart said. “Such organizations threaten the safety and prosperity of entire communities.” Lockhart added that the investigation is on going. He also commended Cincinnati Police officers and ATF agents for their cooperative investigation, and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Timothy D. Oakley and Kenneth L. Parker, who prosecuted the case.

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